

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Hideji Tajima

Serial No.:

national phase of PCT/JP03/00316

Filed: herewith

For:

SYSTEM FOR HOUSING/PROCESSING

CARRIER AND METHOD FOR

HOUSING/PROCESSING CARRIER

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Examiner: N/A

Art Unit: N/A

Priority Dates:

16 January 2003 (PCT)

17 January 2002 (JP)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application**Atten: DO/EO/US**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I. Introduction

Prior to the initial examination of the referenced application, please amend the application as shown in the accompanying sections and reconsider the referenced application in light of the amendments. Applicant hereby submits a substitute specification in accordance with 37 CFR 1.125 incorporating all the referenced amendments.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawing(s) begin on page 9 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 10 on this paper.